

Introduced by Senator Simitian

February 22, 2007

An act to amend Section 47613 of the Education Code, relating to charter schools.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 537, as introduced, Simitian. Charter schools: report.

The Charter Schools Act of 1992 authorizes a chartering agency to charge for up to 1% of a charter school's revenue for the actual costs of supervisory oversight of the charter school. A chartering agency is authorized to charge for up to 3% of a charter school's revenue for actual costs of supervisory oversight if the charter school is able to obtain substantially rent-free facilities from the chartering agency.

This bill would require the California Research Bureau of the California State Library to prepare and submit to the Legislature by January 8, 2009, a report on the key elements and actual costs of charter school oversight.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 47613 of the Education Code is amended
- 2 to read:
- 3 47613. (a) Except as set forth in subdivision (b), a chartering
- 4 agency may charge for the actual costs of supervisory oversight
- 5 of a charter school not to exceed 1 percent of the revenue of the
- 6 charter school.

1 (b) A chartering agency may charge for the actual costs of
2 supervisory oversight of a charter school not to exceed 3 percent
3 of the revenue of the charter school if the charter school is able to
4 obtain substantially rent free facilities from the chartering agency.

5 (c) A local agency that is given the responsibility for
6 supervisory oversight of a charter school, pursuant to paragraph
7 (1) of subdivision (k) of Section 47605, may charge for the actual
8 costs of supervisory oversight, and administrative costs necessary
9 to secure charter school funding. A charter school that is charged
10 for costs under this subdivision may not be charged pursuant to
11 subdivision (a) or (b).

12 (d) This section does not prevent the charter school from
13 separately purchasing administrative or other services from the
14 chartering agency or any other source.

15 (e) For the purposes of this section, a chartering agency means
16 a school district, county department of education, or the State
17 Board of Education, that granted the charter to the charter school.

18 (f) For ~~the~~ purposes of this section, “revenue of the charter
19 school” means the general purpose entitlement and categorical
20 block grant, as defined in subdivisions (a) and (b) of Section 47632.

21 (g) (1) *The California Research Bureau of the California State*
22 *Library shall prepare and submit to the Legislature by January 8,*
23 *2009, a report on the key elements and actual costs of charter*
24 *school oversight. The report, at a minimum, shall address all of*
25 *the following issues:*

26 (A) *The range of annual activities that entities providing*
27 *supervisory oversight of charter schools are expected to perform.*

28 (B) *Staff time spent on reviewing charter petitions measured by*
29 *the size of school districts and the number of charter petitions*
30 *reviewed.*

31 (C) *Staff time spent on oversight responsibilities measured by*
32 *the size of school districts and the number of charter schools.*

33 (D) *Best practices for charter school oversight measured by*
34 *efficiency and effectiveness.*

35 (E) *Comparison of school district costs and revenues*
36 *attributable to charter school oversight.*

37 (F) *Length of time required to review a single charter petition.*

38 (G) *Policy recommendations for structuring charter school*
39 *oversight and accountability in California.*

- 1 (2) *In preparing its report, the California Research Bureau*
- 2 *shall consult with an advisory panel to ensure technical accuracy.*

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